incident of police interception of trucks carrying steel melting scrap to Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur, the registered criminal case is still under investigation by police.

High sale price of Tomato ketchup

352. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the sale price of tomato ketchup in the market is unreasonably high considered in the light of the price of tomatoes during the tomato season;

(b) whether Government are also aware that all the manufacturers of tomato ketchup charge more or less a similar price, leading to the suspicion that perhaps there is a collusion amongst the manufacturers; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to set up a Bureau to look into the prices of various processed foods like ketchups, jams and sauces on the lines of BICP?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No such analysis has been carried out by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not have information about any such collusion amongst the manufacturers of tomato ketchup.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, question does not arise.

Effluent discharged by Bokaro Steel Plant into Damodar river

353. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the authorities of Bokaro Steel Plant have at any time measured the quantum of trace metal elements and chemicals like Poly Aromatic Hydrocarbons present in the effluent discharged in the Damodar river;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the date of last report in this regard;

(c) which are the agencies entrusted by the Plant authorities to do such work; and

(d) what are the reasons for not entrusting the work to any of the National Laboratories situated in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Bokaro Steel Plant is monitoring the quantum of trace metal elements in effluent discharged. According to the Indian Standard Regulation 2490 of 1976 agreed to by the Government of Bihar, there is no provision to monitor quantum of Poly Aromatic Hydro Carbons discharged in effluent.

(b) The quantum of trace metals is determined monthly. The details of the last analysis undertaken on 5th July, 1990, are as follows:—

Concentration of Trace Metals in the Effluents

	Actual	*(mg / t) IS-2490 Norms*
1. Nickel	Less than 0.009	3.0
2. Zinc	0.005	5.0
3. Lead	0.037	0.1
4. Copper	0.019	3.0
5. Chromium (Total)	Less than 0.003	2.0
6. Hexavalent Chromium	Less than 0.003	0.1

As can be seen from the above, the quantum of trace metals are all within safe limits.

(c) Bokaro Steel has entrusted the